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BEHIND THE LINES: Our Take on the Other Media's Homeland Security Coverage

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DHS's Janet Napolitano told senators yesterday that new screening practices will be unveiled in the next several months for children under 12 years old traveling on airlines, **The Hill's Jordy Yager** reports. The Obama administration, meantime, is cracking down on immigrants who overstay their visas with a system that automatically and simultaneously checks multiple national security, immigration and law enforcement databases, **The Associated Press' Eileen Sullivan** relates.

Homies: Top U.S. officials, including Napolitano, say they're not ready to put aside last week's "credible threat" of Sept. 11-related al Qaeda strikes against New York and/or D.C., **CNN's Carol Cratty** recounts. "Janet Napolitano can give the impression she's doing her job and keeping Americans safe when Americans are unaware of the dangers lurking next door," **Katie Kieffer** condemns in **Townhall**. "Homeland security begins with hometown security," the DHS chief concludes in an **Albany Tribune** Sept. 11-pitched op-ed -- while **The Cato Institute's David Rittgers** "argues that if the last 10 years has taught us anything, it's that DHS needs to be abolished," **The Washington Post's Allen McDuffee** relays.

Feds: Alexandria's mayor has written President Obama to vent concern over news reports of a new Northern Virginia Pentagon complex's terror vulnerabilities, **The Washington Times' David Sherfinski** relates. In a rare public speech, U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald praised a "fundamental shift . . . over the last decade in intelligence sharing among U.S. law enforcement," **The Chicago Tribune's Annie Sweeney** records. "U.S. counterterrorism officials already see [al-Qaeda-in-the-Arabian-Peninsula] as the most immediate threat to the United States," **CNN's Paul Cruickshank** and **Tom Lister** threat assess. Chasing down last weekend's "credible threat," the FBI questioned and cleared some 300 people, **ABC News' Brian Ross** reports.

State and local: The D.C. police union questions that threat alarm, foreseeing huge, needless overtime bills for local taxpayers, **WJLA 7 News** notes -- while **The Grand Island Independent** sees the Nebraska State Patrol inaugurating a Suspicious Activity Reporting site, and a **Houston Chronicle** analysis finds nearly \$962 million in homeland security spending to have flooded the metro area since the Sept. 11 attacks. Thanks to a "fusion center" in Little Rock, local law enforcers tell **The Arkansas News Bureau**, their ability to tackle terrorist conspiracies "has greatly improved" -- as **The Oshkosh Northwestern** finds Wisconsin's emergency response too often "uncoordinated." Police officers from across Philadelphia converged on Center City on Monday in a rapid response homeland security drill, **WPVI 6 News** relates.

Weekend Warriors: Sixteen Massachusetts National Guards have died on active duty since Sept. 11, The **Boston Globe** notes, detailing the "brave new world" opened up for America's state-based no-longer-just "weekend warriors" -- as **DVIDS News** sees Texas Guard soldiers and airmen marking 10 years of post-9/11 service. The attacks "changed virtually everything about the Oregon National Guard," The **Salem Statesman-Journal** surveys. "Now a decade old, the GWOT continues to dominate Nevada Guard activities and operations," The **Lahontan Valley News** adds -- and check a **Stateline** infographic on the same.

Bugs 'n bombs: South Carolina's Highway Patrol stopped a box truck on I-85 after getting a hazmat tip from the Joint Terrorism Task Force, Florence's **WPDE 15 News** notes. Fourteen hours after the Twin Towers collapsed, Gotham health officials "met to figure out how to detect a bioterror attack before it spawned an epidemic," a **Wired** account recalls. The head of the U.N. nuclear agency plans to publish new info undergirding his belief that Iran is working on a nuclear warhead, The **Washington Times** tells -- as **ABC News** sees Iran celebrating the official opening of its first nuclear power plant on Monday, and **Haaretz** hears ex-Veep Dick Cheney flatly predicting that Israel would attack Iran to prevent it from acquiring atom arms.

Follow the money: Al Qaeda's ability to finance a Sept. 11-type attack "has been significantly diminished, but new challenges to choke off funds for further attacks continue," **CNN** notes. "Struggling to secure steady financing," al Qaeda "can no longer rely on a thick Rolodex and a simple bank transfer," **Agence France-Presse** hears Timothy Geithner saying. "The bean counters and financial wizards at the Treasury Department [boast] the only finance intelligence unit of its kind to track terrorist financing around the globe and starve terrorists of their funding," **FOX Business** profiles. (Treasury last week designated three senior al Qaeda leaders based in Pakistan as global terrorists, The **Long War Journal** relates.) "Terrorists are increasingly turning to robberies and kidnappings to raise money," **Reuters** adds.

Off track: "NJ Transit has attempted to 'recruit' people who know the buses, trains, light rail vehicles and their routes the best -- the riders," hoping to give them the awareness and resources needed to report security issues, The **Cinnaminson Patch** updates. The United Transportation Union and St. Louis's Terminal Railroad Association share a \$176,000 Freight Rail Security Grant to help "sharpen workers' security awareness skills," **Progressive Railroading** reports -- while **Brookfield (Ill.) Suburban Life** describes the Riverside P.D.'s participation in a rail security symposium sponsored by Amtrak, Metra, BNSF and Union Pacific Railroad. Controversial new rail security measures in Uzbekistan have inadvertently empowered police to extract bribes from riders heading to the platforms, **UzNews.net** notes.

Close air support: Out of an abundance of caution, a New York-Phoenix US Airways flight was diverted to St. Louis yesterday, but was inspected and cleared, **CNN** notes. If TSA's "chat-down" pilot project succeeds, "screeners someday will be able to quickly assess travelers and allow those deemed harmless to keep their shoes on and their laptops packed and breeze past the scanners," **Bloomberg** spotlights -- and read "Inside TSA's 'No-Lie Zone'" in The **Boston Globe**. "Long before the 2001 attacks, some of my homemade instruments attracted special attention at airport securitycheckpoints," a **San Antonio Express-News** contributor opens. Thanks to lax oversight, passengers transiting airports across Canada have reported thefts of money, jewelry and such at screening checkpoints, The **Toronto Sun** discovers.

Terror tech: Each failed terror attempt to down airliners has spurred the adoption of new passenger screening techniques and technologies, The **Scientific American** surveys. U.S. defense industries face relentless, sophisticated foreign attacks on their computer networks, a threat company leaders say may require a protective federal reaction, **Reuters** reports -- while the **Los Angeles Times** describes the boom that post-9/11 wars have generated for smaller aerospace firms pioneering unique high-tech battlefield adjuncts. Forensic scientists have developed new DNA techniques to meet the unprecedented challenge of putting names to Ground Zero's 1,121 unidentified dead, **New Scientist** notes -- as The **Christian Science Monitor** profiles a San Francisco doctor whose "Rescue Reel" personal escape device might have saved lives that day.

Robots, drones and IEDs, oh my: "Since Sept. 11 . . . robots are everywhere, and the demand for more is tremendous," **Discovery News** notes -- as **IEEE Spectrum** cautions: "Networks of autonomous robots will someday transform warfare, but significant hurdles remain." The 2001 attacks "triggered a revolution in U.S. spycraft as the intelligence services shattered a longstanding taboo by launching an expansive program of targeted killings by remote control," The **Wall Street Journal** spotlights. As a default tactic for dealing with terrorist threats, drone strikes could prompt retaliation and pushback, a **CFR First Take** warns. "The signature weapon of the Sept. 11 era is lethal, easily concealable and maddeningly easy to construct," but the IED's greatest danger is posed by how cheap it is, **Danger Room** profiles -- while The **Marine Corps Times** touts a Corps-developed airborne jammer pod that could disrupt roadside bomb detonators.

Courts and rights: The Nigerian underwear bomber is switching into lawyer mode as his highly anticipated case goes to trial this week, The **Detroit Free Press** profiles. Two years after being acquitted in an alleged terror plot, Youssef Megahed is still awaiting a government ruling on his citizenship application, The **Tampa Tribune** tells. "Terrorists may not be prosecuted at the Bucks County (Pa.) Courthouse, but [Sept. 11] forever changed its courtrooms," The **Times Courier** recounts. "Although tens of thousands of people have been imprisoned by the United States over the last decade, no one directly responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks has faced justice in a court of law," **Al Jazeera** jeers.

Over there: A new video distributed by al Qaeda's media arm to mark the Sept. 11 tenth anniversary includes previously unreleased warnings from Osama bin Laden, the **Post** reports. An Oregon man who traveled by train and boat from the West Coast to England because of his placement on the no-fly list has been detained in Great Britain, **AP** recounts. The United States has extended its Terrorist Finance Tracking Program to Nigeria to help it deal with increasing terrorist attacks, The **African Report** updates. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade figures reveal that 1,069 Australians were detained last year for charges including terrorism, sexual assault and kidnapping, The **Melbourne Herald Sun** relates.

Sieg, Hell No: "Despite the surprising coincidence of finding a perfectly formed swastika amidst the broken girders of the Twin Towers, Sept. 11 memorial curators have opted not to display the symbol, choosing instead to leave it in the storage facility where it has been located for the past 10 years," The **Onion** reports. "'On the one hand, it's pretty miraculous that there was a precisely shaped 80-by-80-foot swastika found in the rubble of the fallen World Trade Center, but in the end, we decided not to include it in our plans for the museum,' said memorial spokesman Stanley Morgenstern, adding that it would probably be seen as inappropriate. Upon

hearing the news, neo-Nazi groups have complained about the exclusion, arguing that the giant swastika is 'a sign from heaven' and that 'Sept. 11 affected all Americans, including those who believe in the inherent genetic superiority of the Aryan race.'" Check also, on the cover of The **Onion Weekender**: "I Was Supposed To Fly From Tampa To Atlanta On 9/11: One Printing Consultant Shares His Story."

Source: **CQ Homeland Security**

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